GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:524
ANSWERED ON:21.10.2008
IMPORT OF MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS FROM CHINA
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan;Nikhil Kumar Shri

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that a large number of children have died in China after consuming toxic milk products recently;

(b) if so, whether China is exporting huge quantity of milk and milk products to India;

(c) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year;

(d) whether the Government proposes to ban import of milk and milk products from China; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to prevent such incidence in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) India's import of milk and milk products from China under ITC (HS) code: 0401, 0402, 0403, 0404, 0405 and 0406 during the last three years and the current year is as under :

Year	Quantity in kgs	Value in Rs.
2005-06	186	20,059
2006-07	665	1,43,965
2007-08#	88,002	85,10,475
(upto September, 2008)		

Data is provisional and subject to change

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has issued Advisory to the concerned Ministries/ Departments for imposing immediate restrictions on import of all dairy products from China and entry of these products to be allowed only on batch-wise samples being certified to be free from melamine contamination. Accordingly, Department of Commerce vide Notification No. 46 dated 24th September, 2008 has prohibited for three months import from China of Dairy Products including milk and milk products.

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has also issued Advisory to the State Health Authorities to monitor melamine contamination in foods and to take special care and action to ensure the food products containing melamine are not present in the market to protect consumer health.

In the country the milk products are being regulated under Milk & Milk Products Order, 1992 (MMPO-92) by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairy and Fisheries. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has asked the MMPO Authorities to carry out sample testing of the Dairy plants licensed under MMPO for melamine contamination.